

JULY
No.16

10¢

FOLLOWED BY MILLIONS IN LEADING NEWSPAPERS EVERY WEEK

The SPIRIT and EBONY



REWARD
\$1000

\$1000
FOR THE CAPTURE OF GODCHER GRAPPLE



THE
CASE
OF THE
UNCANNY
CAT

and
2 OTHER
FAST-
ACTION
COMPLETE
SPIRIT
STORIES

PLUS
FLATFOOT
BURNS
AND
JONESY



WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

Famous BANNER FIREWORKS!

ZIP! BOOM! BANG! OH-Boy!

OVER 1000 PIECES—ONLY \$4.95

Retail Value \$13.25

BUZZ BOMBS • BLOCK BUSTERS • ZIG ZAG WHISTLES • FLASHLIGHT CRACKERS • JAP POP-BOTTLE SKY ROCKETS • SIREN AERIAL BOMBS

All your old favorites and several new items—to make a total of more than 1000 pieces. Every piece a thrill combination of noise and beauty.

No. 1—SPECIAL \$13.25 ASSORTMENT—OVER 1000 PIECES OF NOISE and BEAUTY—Only \$4.95

Other items in this giant assortment include Electric Cannon Salutes that will really rock you—Zig Zag Musical Salutes, Black Snakes, Cherry Bombs (good old-fashioned kind)... White Mule that really kicks, Silver and Gold Fountains, Silver Rain Torch, a beautiful piece—Bottle in Clouds (up to 16 reports)—3 Shot Repeating Aerial Bombs, 2 Shot Repeating

Aerial Flash Bombs—Cone Fire of Red, White and Blue Display—Large Triangle Wheels, Sky Rockets that end in a majestic display of Red, White and Blue Stars—Zebra Flash Crackers—10 Ball Roman Candles—Comet Star Shells, the most beautiful night display ever offered and Sparklers for the little tots. Remember you get over 1000 pieces in all with a retail value of \$13.25 for only \$4.95.

No. 2—GIANT \$13.25 CRACKER ASSORTMENT—ONLY \$4.95

This assortment will give you plenty of noise and action. Selected and especially made up for boys who want to get a kick out of every last piece. You'll get those extra loud Electric Cannon Salutes—2 and 3 Shot Repeating

EVERY PIECE
A REAL
NOISE-MAKER

Aerial Bombs—Block Busters—Red Devils—Flash Salutes—Zig-Zag Musical Salutes—Flashlight Crackers—and many others. More than 1800 pieces—all for only \$4.95.

No. 3—BIG COLORFUL FAMILY LAWN DISPLAY—

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL
NIGHT DISPLAY OFFERED
ONLY \$4.95

This is a special package made up for those who want a colorful display with a minimum of noise. You will OH! and AII! as you watch these creations burst into a display of sheer beauty that is unsurpassed in fireworks history. Musical Vesuvius Flitter Fountains—Comet Star Shells—Flower Pots with Handles—Large Floral Shells—Triangle Spinning Wheels—Red-White-Blue Patriotic Colored Fire and Roman Candles are only some of the unusual pieces in this large assortment.

QUICK ACTION COUNTS—ORDER NOW WHILE STOCKS ARE COMPLETE

This year we have greater facilities for serving you. There will be plenty for those who act quick. But orders are coming in fast and we do not want to disappoint anyone. So rush your order today—NOW.

CASH WITH ORDER—NO C. O. D.'s.

Send payment in full with order—Certified Check—Bank Draft or Money Order. If you send currency be sure to register letter. All shipments sent by Express F.O.B. Toledo. Give nearest express office if different from your town.

BIG NEW CATALOG IN COLOR FREE!

Quick Action ORDER! BLANK!

BANNER FIREWORKS MFG. CO., Inc. Dept. 164
446 West Capistrano TOLEDO 12, OHIO

Enclosed find . . . \$ for which ship me . . .
Big Combination offers as checked below.

() No. 1 Big Deluxe Assortment . . . \$4.95
() No. 2 Giant Cracker Assortment . . . \$4.95
() No. 3 Family Lawn Display . . . \$4.95

Name

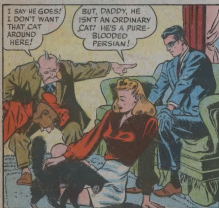
Street

City State

Express office if different from above

BANNER FIREWORKS MFG. CO., Inc. Dept. 164 446 CAPISTRANO TOLEDO 12, OHIO

THE SPIRIT, July, 1949, No. 16. Published bi-monthly by EUGENE W. ARNOLD, 8 Lane Street, Buffalo, N. Y. Executive Office, 376 Sanson St., Stamford, Conn. Entered at 2nd class matter Jan. 16, 1949, at the Post Office, Buffalo, N. Y., under Act of March 2, 1879. The contents and events pictured herein are entirely fictitious. The Publisher accepts no responsibility for unsolicited material. Editorial and Advertising Offices, 15 West 42nd St., New York 18, N. Y. Copyright 1949 by EUGENE W. ARNOLD. Printed in U.S.A.



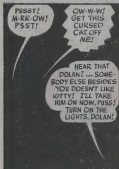
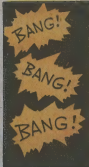
The Spirit



The Spirit



The Spirit



The Spirit



YOU'RE CRAZY IF YOU THINK YOU CAN MAKE A BLOOD-HOUND OUT OF A NITWIT CAT!

NO DOUBT... BUT WHAT ABOUT A SARDINE HOUND?



THERE! HE'S LICKED UP ALL THE OIL! AND NOW HE'S THROUGH!

I THINK THERE'S MORE OIL, DOLAN!— ONLY HE CAN'T GET TO IT!



BUT I MAY BE ABLE TO HELP HIM!



YOU SEEM TO BE THE WORLD'S WORST SHOT!



MAYBE YOU CAN DO BETTER BLINDFOLDED!

CUCK!

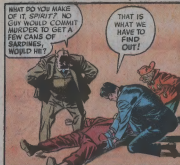


HOLD THAT POSE FOR JUST A SECOND!



YOU SEE... OUR LITTLE SLEUTH WASN'T WRONG AT ALL!

The Spirit

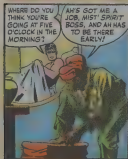
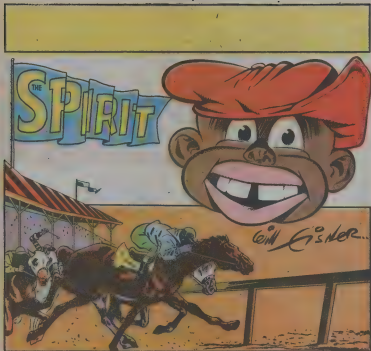


The Spirit



The Spirit JONESY





The Spirit



I HAVE TO BE PLENTY CURIOUS TO GET OUT OF BED AT FIVE MYSELF!



WHEW ... WHAT A HIKE! EBONY'S BOSS MUST LIVE OUT IN THE WOODS!



A 'RACETRACK!



WHAT THE--??

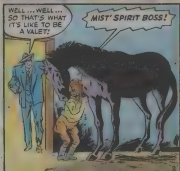


WELL, WILL WONDERS NEVER CEASE ?!!!



WONDERFUL TIME, MY BOY!

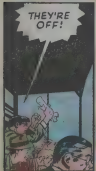
JACKIE BOY IS IN FINE SHAPE, SUN! HE'LL WALK AWAY WITH THE RACE SATTDAY!

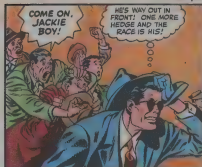


WELL ... WELL ... SO THAT'S WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE A VALET!

MIST' SPIRIT BOSS!

The Spirit





The Spirit

GREETINGS, DIRTY LOUIE! THAT LAST CRACK WOULDN'T MEAN THAT YOU AND TINHORN TOM HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH JACKIE BOY'S FALLING, WOULD IT?

THE SPIRIT!

WHY, SPIRIT, WHAT AN IDEA! YOU KNOW THE WAY I LOVE HORSES! TO AS SOON THINK OF HARMING MY OWN GRANDMOTHER!

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT! ... BY THE WAY, WHAT'S MAKING THAT NOISE?--

--YOUR BONES, I HOPE!

AW, SPIRIT! NOW I'VE BUSTED MY HAND MIRROR! HOWM I GONNA COMB ME HAIR AND KEEP UP APPEARANCES WITHOUT IT?

WHAT?... DIRTY LOUIE COMBIN' HIS HAIR? TIMES SURE HAVE CHANGED!

WELL, I SUPPOSE I CAN'T PIN ANYTHING ON THEM JUST BECAUSE THEY BACKED BROWN FRIAR!

OW-W-W-W! SO NOW MY HOME IS A HORSE HOSPITAL!

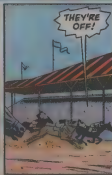
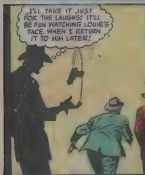
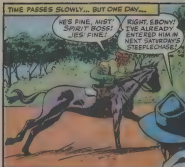
BUT, MIST' SPIRIT BOSS ... AH HAD NOWHERE ELSE TO TAKE HIM! EY'BODY SAID HE OUGHT TO BE SHOT!

H'M! LET'S SEE WHAT I CAN DO FOR HIM! IT ISN'T REALLY A BAD INJURY!

THERE! NOW WE JUST HAVE TO MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T MOVE ... AND HOPE FOR THE BEST!

THANKS, MIST' SPIRIT BOSS! AH ALLUS KNOWN YO' WUZ THE KINDEST MAN IN THE WORLD!

The Spirit





FLATFOOT BURNS

by
-AL STAHL

STAR
DETECTIVE



The Spirit

It happened one day when Flatfoot Burns was strolling...

SAY, BUDDY, COULD YOU RECOMMEND A GOOD BANK?

?

HUH? SURE! THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL BANK UP THE BLOCK!...THOUSANDS OF DEPOSITORS! \$50,000,000,000 IN ASSETS!...FINANCIALLY STABLE AND—

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE MONEY, BUD, AS LONG AS IT'S A **RED BRICK BUILDING!**

RED BRICK BUILDING! HMM-M!

SAY, BUD, WOULD YOU MIND HOLDING THE END OF THIS TAPE MEASURE FOR A MINUTE?

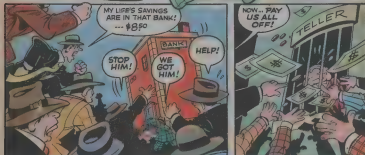
SURE!



The Spirit



The Spirit





FACE VALUE

"THAT man who just limped into Dr. Mason's office was staring at you, Spirit," Ellen Dolan remarked as they turned toward her home. "Do you know him?"

"Such is the price of fame," the Spirit said lightly. "Seriously, though," he added, "his rugged build was familiar, but none of the thugs I've dealt with happens to look like him."

"He is handsome, isn't he," Ellen commented. "I wonder who he is?"

"Why not ask Dr. Mason," the Spirit suggested.

"I'm not that interested," Ellen protested. When they opened the front door of the Dolan house, Ebony, who had been ambling along behind them, quickened his pace. "Wait for me, Mist' Spirit Boss," he cried. "Ah wants to hear what Commissioner Dolan wants, too."

"Then hurry it up," the Spirit urged gently. "The Commissioner is an impatient man."

The trio entered the house and proceeded directly to the study, where Dolan, perspiring, looked up from a paper-strewn desk. He glowered at the Spirit, who immediately perched on a corner of the desk. "It certainly took you long enough to get here," the Commissioner barked.

"A year-old warehouse robbery can hardly be called an urgent matter for us to handle," the Spirit replied, idly swinging his legs.

"The disappearance of a cool half-million in furs is a matter that's still urgent enough," Dolan replied. "One of the coats turned up in a pawn shop, so we figure Resinback Reilly might be back in town."

"You figure that broken-down pug was actually the man who ran the show?" the Spirit asked.

"He was the only one identified by the patrolman who interrupted the robbery," Dolan said. "The patrolman put a slug in him but Reilly got away in a truck, if you remember."

"You're always so sharp on manhunt," the Commissioner went on, a note of sarcasm in his voice. "that I thought I'd give you another crack at locating him."

"We can do it, Mist' Spirit Boss," Ebony said manfully.

The Spirit rose. "I appreciate your vote of confidence, Ebony," he answered. "Let's be on our way."

The Spirit strolled toward town, accompanied

by an Ebony deep in thought. Finally the famous crime-fighter glanced down at his young companion, saying, "Well, Ebony, have you come up with the answer yet?"

"The way ah sees it, Mist' Spirit Boss," Ebony muttered, "if Resinback is as ugly as you said, he must have got him a new face."

The Spirit smiled. "Maybe you have something there," he agreed. Abruptly he wheeled and retraced his steps.

"We going back to Mrs. Ellen's?" Ebony queried.

"We're off to see Doctor Mason," the Spirit answered.

Just as the Spirit and Ebony were approaching Dr. Mason's brightly lighted office, the handsome man who had gone in earlier came out and started walking in their direction. Spotting him, the Spirit slipped behind a tree and dragged the mystified Ebony after him. When the man limped past them, the pair silently followed him.

A few blocks farther on the man turned up the walk of a large old house, pulled out a key ring and inserted a key in the front door.

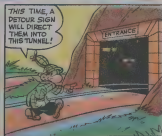
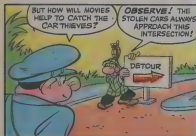
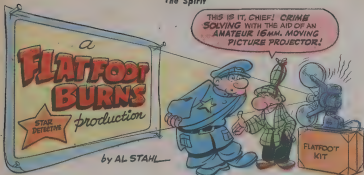
The Spirit swiftly closed the distance between him and his quarry. "Mind if I join you, Resinback?" he asked as he reached the man. The latter struck with a swiftness that belied his bulk, sending the Spirit crashing to the porch floor.

With a bound the Spirit was up and on his feet, lashing two powerful blows to the face. "Sorey to ruin Dr. Mason's excellent plaster surgery," he said as the man hit the floor, "but your old pals in prison wouldn't have recognized that pretty face."

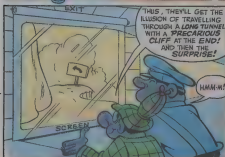
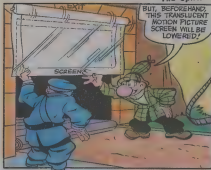
Later, back at Dolan's, the Spirit gave the Commissioner his report. "I know that face didn't go with that muscle-bound body," he explained. "Then," he went on, "I remembered Dr. Mason is a plastic surgeon. Adding that to the limp which a certain prize fighter picked up some years ago in the ring," he concluded, "I came up with Resinback Reilly."

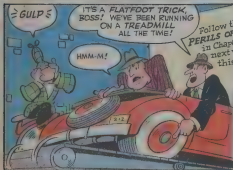
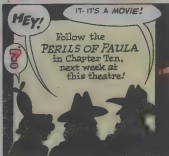
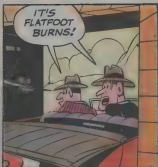
"Luck," snorted Dolan. "I've never known anyone who had so much luck."

"You're forgetting yourself, Commissioner," the Spirit drawled. "Think how many involved cases you would have if Ebony and I didn't help you out."

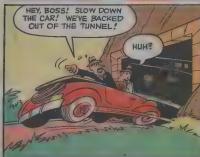
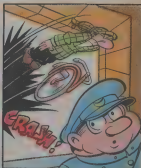


The Spirit





The Spirit



The police files of Central City called this "The Case of The Headless Burglar"... but the **SPIRIT** argued that it took a head, and a good one, to know the value of the Von Gelt diamonds! This reasoning set him off on the track of one of his weirdest adventures!



The Spirit

AT WILDWOOD CEMETERY, HOME OF THE SPIRIT...



SHADES OF WASHINGTON IRVING?
WHAT'S THAT??

YOW! WE'D BETTAH
MOVE TO ANOTHER PLACE,
MIST SPIRIT BOSS!



HMMM! THIS
WILL BEAR
LOOKING
INTO!

AH KAIN'T
LOOK!



AFTER HM,
EBONY!

MIST SPIRIT BOSS,
THAT'S NOT A
HE! THAT'S AN
IT!



WE WANT TO
TALK TO YOU!
... WHY... HE'S
GONE!

AH'S IN FAVOR
O' DISAPPEARIN'
FAST, MAHSELF!



THERE MUST BE
SOME NATURAL
EXPLANATION!

HA! HA!
HA!



GOTCHA COVERED!
STICK 'EM UP!



OH, IT'S YOU, SPIRIT!
I THOUGHT I HAD
TRAILED THE HEADLESS
BURGLAR HERE!

!!!!

The Spirit -



LOOKING FOR A HEADLESS COP TO CHASE THE HEADLESS BURGLAR!



WHEN! AND YOU SAY HE'S HEADLESS! IT TAKES A GOOD HEAD TO DO A BIT OF WORK LIKE THAT!



KEEP YOUR LAUNDRY ON! I THINK WE HAVE YOUR HEADLESS ONE TRAPPED IN HERE! I'LL TAKE YOU TO HIM!



BAWW! SNIFF!



HE-HE-HE!



HMMM! SIZE FIVE AND A HALF! THERE IS ONLY ONE BURGLAR WHO'S EVER BEEN BOOKED, WITH THAT SMALL SIZE! HALF-PINT HARRY, THE SECOND-STORY MAN!



AS YOU SAID YOURSELF, THIS ONE IS HEADLESS! THAT WOULD MAKE HIM JUST ABOUT HARRY'S SIZE!

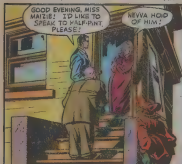


BUT MIST' SPYRIT BOSS, I ALLUS THOUGHT GHOSTS DIDN'T LEAVE TRACKS!

ACCORDING TO MY RECORDS ON CROOKS IN CENTRAL CITY, MATZIE-THU-DIP IS HALF-PINT'S GIRL FRIEND! SHE LIVES HERE!



The Spirit



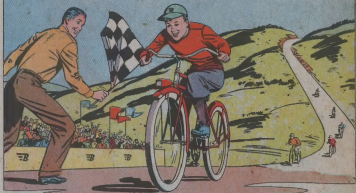
The Spirit







Coaster Brake Wins Again!



Built and tested in the hills of New York State!



That's right! Bendix® Coaster Brakes are tested in the hills around our factory—and you should see how high and how steep they are! One test hill is over a mile long, and by the time we get to the bottom our bikes are really flying—though always under perfect control! On the curves, too, Bendix Coaster Brakes work like magic—slow us down until we're safely around, then let us pick up full speed again in a jiffy! Actual comparisons prove that Bendix coasts farther and faster! Ask your bicycle dealer to show you a Bendix Coaster Brake with all its new features, and always make sure any new bike you get has a Bendix Coaster Brake.

© 1951 B. F. Goodrich

ECLIPSE MACHINE DIVISION of



ELMIRA, NEW YORK

FIREWORKS

RICH BROS.' ALL-AMERICAN ASSORTMENT

The largest selection ever offered at this price! Contains: 24 packages (over 550 pieces) of firecrackers, including 6 packages of the famous Zebra brand; 36 electro-cannon salutes (bulldogs); comet; whistling bomb; two-shot repeaters; roman candles; musical fountain; red, white and blue cone; fountains; fireworks cones; sparklers; flower pot; aerial bombs; snakes; 150 2" and 3" salutes; and 12 special imported sky rockets. FREE PUNK.



ACTUAL
RETAIL VALUE

~~\$12⁰⁵~~

for only

4⁹⁵

LAWN DISPLAY "NO NOISE" ASSORTMENT



One of the best lawn display assortments ever assembled by anyone! Loads of exciting, colorful fireworks to give you a brilliant, but noiseless, Fourth of July evening! Contains: 64 sparklers; eight 12- and 8-ball roman candles; large pinwheels; red and green fire cones; vesuvius fountains; golden jewel; silver cascade; oriental and radiant fountains; flower pots; 6 giant parade sparklers; silver wheels; sky rockets; comets; handle lawn fountains; snakes; torches; red, white and blue cones; cosmic fountains; pyrolon and cascade base display pieces; FREE PUNK.

ACTUAL
RETAIL VALUE

~~\$12¹⁵~~

for only

5⁹⁵

Send for Free Catalog of Other Assortments and Family Lawn Displays
Also Send for Free Cap and Pistol Circular!

Order Shipped Ry. Express Only. None sent C.O.D. Enclose M.O. or Check. Name Nearest Express Office.

RICH BROS.' FIREWORKS CO.
DEPT. 40 BOX 514 SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

APR 27 PAID

HOW JOE'S BODY BROUGHT HIM FAME INSTEAD OF SHAME



Charles Atlas

—actual photo of the man who holds the title, "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

I Can Make YOU a New Man, Too, in Only 15 Minutes a Day!

If YOU, like Joe, have a body that others can "push around"—if you're ashamed to strip for sports or a swim—then give me just 15 minutes a day! I'll PROVE you can have a body you'll be proud of, packed with red-blooded vitality! "Dynamic Tension." That's the secret! That's how I changed myself from a spineless-shankled screwy weakling to winner of the title, "World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

"Dynamic Tension" Does It!

Using "Dynamic Tension" only 15 minutes a day, in the privacy of your own room, you quickly begin to put on muscle, increase your chest measurements, broaden your back, fill out your arms and legs. Before you know it, this easy,

NATURAL method will make you a finer specimen of REAL MANHOOD than you ever dreamed you could be! You'll be a New Man!

FREE BOOK

Thousands of fellows have used my marvelous system. Read what they say—see how they looked before and after—in my book, "Everlasting Health and Strength." Send NOW for this book—FREE. It tells all about "Dynamic Tension," shows you actual photos of men I've turned from puny weaklings into Atlas Champions. It tells how I can do the same for YOU! Don't put it off! Address me personally: Charles Atlas, Dept. 330U, 115 East 23rd St., New York 10, N.Y.

**CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 330 U,
115 East 23rd St., New York 10, N.Y.**

I want the proof that your system of "Dynamic Tension" will help make a New Man of me—give me a healthy, husky body and big muscular development. Send me your free book, "Everlasting Health and Strength."

Name _____ Age _____
(Please print or write plainly)

Address _____

City _____ Zone No. _____ State _____
(If any)